Lowell N. Hawkes (ISB #1852) LOWELL N. HAWKES, CHARTERED 1322 East Center Pocatello, Idaho 83201 Telephone: (208) 235-1600 FAX: (208) 235-4200

Attorney for Third-Party Defendants Romriell, Ormond & Goodliffe U.S. COURTS

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CANALIAN SLEURKE

CLERK, ISANO

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF IDAHO

The Honorable Larry M. Boyle

POCATELLO DENTAL GROUP, P.C	4 / 69
an Idaho Professional Corporation,	

Plaintiff,

VS.

INTERDENT SERVICE CORPORATION, a Washington Corporation,

Defendant,

VS.

POCATELLO DENTAL GROUP, P.C., an Idaho Professional Corporation; DWIGHT G. ROMRIELL, individually; LARRY R. MISNER, JR., individually; PORTER SUTTON; individually; ERNEST SUTTON; individually; GREGORY ROMRIELL; individually; ERROL ORMOND; individually; and ARNOLD GOODLIFFE; individually;

Counterdefendant and Third-party Defendants.

Case No. CV-03-450-E-LMB

SUPPLEMENTAL FILING
BY THIRD-PARTY
DEFENDANTS
DWIGHT G. ROMRIELL,
GREGORY ROMRIELL,
ERROL ORMOND, and
ARNOLD GOODLIFFE
TO JUNE 28TH HEARING
ON MISNER TRO MOTION

SUPPLEMENT OF THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS ROMRIELL, ORMOND & GOODLIFFE TO HEARING ON MISNER TRO MOTION — Page 1

Pocatello Dental Group v. InterDent v. Romriell, Misner, Sutton, Sutton, Ormond & Goodliffe

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Procedural Context

On June 30, 2004 this Court held a telephone hearing on InterDent's motion for a TRO against Dr. LeRoy "Russ" Misner. This Court allowed until July 8th for the Pocatello Dental Group parties to supplement the record and include the full depositions of Dr. Gregory Romriell and Dr. Larry Bybee that had been taken on June 25th, shortly before the telephone hearing.

InterDent counsel had argued that Dr. Gregory Romriell, current President of the Pocatello Dental Group, had tesfied that Dr. Misner's leaving the Pocatello Dental Group was "devastating" and thus a basis for issuing the TRO. That was an out-of-context quote of Dr. Romriell taken from page 55, lines 14-15 of Dr. Romriell's deposition.

When counsel for Dr. Romriell was permitted to address the issue, it was explained to the Court that, had *the full transcript* of Dr. Romriell been furnished the Court by InterDent it would have been apparent that the "devastating" comment by Dr. Romriell was part of an explanation that InterDent's failure to provide adequate staff, supplies, and equipment had essentially driven Dr. Misner and other dentists out of the practice by failing to maintain previously-existing professional levels of service.¹

Dr. Misner and Dr. Larry Bybee had historically been the two pediatric dentistry specialists at the Pocatello Dental Group. InterDent, whether by virtue of its

¹ The full transcript of Dr. Gregory Romriell's deposition is attached hereto just before the Certificate of Service.

bankruptcy or otherwise refused to spend the money train and maintain needed pediatric dentistry staff thus forcing Dr. Misner and Dr. Bybee to leave.

This memorandum provides the detail of that explanation² given at the telephone hearing that InterDent withheld from the Court.

ARGUMENT

INTERDENT CANNOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ITS OWN WRONGS AND FAILINGS

The essence of the following cited testimony of Dr. Romricll is that

InterDent has been nothing short of hostile to maintaining the professional — and

historically existing — needs of the Pocatello Dental Group dentists.³ InterDent has

² This Memorandum is limited to just the June 25th deposition testimony of Dr. Gregory Romriell, current President of the Pocatello Dental Group, The full deposition testimony of Dr. Larry Bybee is being provided by his counsel, Mr. Hearn.

³ The failings and refusals of InterDent to maintain and manage the Pocatello Dental Group practice at its historical high level is raised in the Amended Counterclaims of Third-Party Defendants Romriell, Ormond, and Goodliffe:

^{54.} The conduct of Defendant InterDent in its dealings with the professionals and patients at the Pocatello Dental Group has been hostile, tactical, unprofessional, defiant, recklessly indifferent, and in conscious disregard to the professional standards and good faith for which the Pocatello Dental Group had previously and historically been known and to which Defendant InterDent was contractually and professionally obligated to respect and honor.

^{55.} Among other things, Defendant InterDent has subordinated the interests of patients and professionals and the quality of practice to which the Pocatello Dental Group had previously adhered, * * *

^{56.} The conduct of Defendant InterDent ...was to degrade prior standards and the prior quality of professional and patient relationships.

^{57.} InterDent has further repeatedly refused to make full financial disclosure....

^{58.} The overall net effect of Defendant interDent's wrongful and calculated conduct is that the essence of the material purposes and reasons for the management contract and the element of good faith and fair dealing in the relationship cease to exist to the professional detriment of the professionals, patients, and staff of the Pocatello Dental Group.

driven away Group dentists by failing to maintain equipment, supplies, and adequate trained staff.

InterDent's seeking to preclude Dr. Misner from treating pediatric patients where InterDent has *prevented* him and Dr. Bybee from doing so boils down to seeking to take advantage of its own wrongs. InterDent chose to not maintain its pediatric dentistry support staff and directed other dentists remaining to refer pediatric patients into the community; Pocatello Dental Group would no longer treat them.

It is fundamental law that a party cannot take advantage of its own wrong: It is "the policy of this state that no person shall be allowed to profit by his own wrong, wherever committed." Wilkins v. Firemans's Fund, 107 Idaho 1006, 695 P.2d 391, 393 (1985). See also, Runcorn v. Shearer Lumber Products, 107 Idaho 389, 690 P.2d 324, 331 (1984) and Barnett v. Eagle Helicopters, Inc., 123 Idaho 361, 848 P.2d 419, 422 (1993) ("the policy against allowing an employer or its insurer to profit from the employer's own wrong."); Schiewe v. Farwell, 125 Idaho 70, 867 P.2d 944, 948 (Ct. App. 1992) ("unconscionable to allow the person against whom the estoppel is sought to maintain a position which is inconsistent with the one in which he accepted the benefit."); O'Dell v. Basabe, 119 Idaho 796, 813, 810 P.2d 1082, 1098-99 (1991) ("The most elementary conceptions of justice and public policy require that the wrongdoer shall bear the risk of the uncertainty which his own wrong has created.")

It is also established law that "whether the public interest will be advanced by granting the preliminary relief" is an appropriate consideration in this setting; a TRO

should be denied where, as here, it flies in the face of the "public interest." *Owner-Operator Independent Driver Association, Inc. v. Swift Transportation Co., Inc.*, 367 F.3d 1108 (9th Cir. - May 12, 2004) (Headnote 2).

The following quotes from Dr. Gregory Romricll's deposition make it clear that (1) InterDent forced dentists to leave the Pocatello Dental Group by failing to maintain the practice to historical levels, and (2) precluding Dr. Misner from treating pediatric patients when the Pocatello Dental Group no longer can is contrary to the "public interest." InterDent has created the very situation it complains of. The following is "the rest of the story" InterDent did not want this Court to hear from Dr. Romriell's June 25th deposition:

InterDent "Devastating Our Practice"

- Q. What we are here about today, and I am going to try to limit it to this, is Dr. Misner's noncompete –
- A. You asked me carlier about that, and that's the reason that I can't enforce a noncompete, because *they were devastating* our practice.⁴
- G. Romriell Depo. 44:16-20

InterDent Made It Impossible To Meet Dentists' Professional Needs

InterDent Failed to Maintain Equipment, Provide Supplies, Train Staff

A. My recollection would be based upon our recent history with InterDent, that the InterDent dilemma would be the main subject of discussion, our *lack of supplies*, our loss of practice share, our *poor state of training for our staff*, the *disrepair of our equipment*, the inability of InterDent to do marketing within our practice, InterDent's inability to share with us the practice numbers that we need to know to evaluate our practice.

⁴ All emphasis and italics for the quotes cited here are added.

Q. Let's talk about loss of practice share. Now, you have had *dentists leave over the past year or two*, correct?

A. Yes, for the same reasons.

- G. Romriell Depo. 39:2-14

* * *

A. The statement of obligation, I think that we had as a dental group an obligation through InterDent to provide Dr. Snow with the things that we had agreed upon when he came into the group, and through the actions of InterDent, the negative actions of InterDent, we were not able to provide meeting his contract. So the contract had been violated and he is free to do his choice.

- G. Romriell Depo. 20:25-21:6

* * *

- Q. Do you know what their [Dr. Misner & Dr. Bybee] complaints against Pocatello Dental Group are?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What are they?

A. The *inability to provide trained staff*; the *inability to provide functioning equipment*; the inability to provide *adequate supplies and materials*; the inability to give them the *information and data that they needed* on a practice management basis.

- G. Romriell Depo. 85:19-86:2

* * *

- Q. Have you been investigating office space on Yellowstone Avenue in Pocatello?
- A. You'd have to be brain dead to not be concerned about your future practice with what InterDent has caused to happen at the Pocatello Dental Group. They have decimated the practice, they have lost us patients, we have lost our specialists, we have lost our equipment, and, yes, I have been looking at alternative options.
- G. Romriell Depo. 95:5-12

Other Dentists Left For the Same Non-Support Reasons Dr. Snow Did

- Q. Did you do anything to try to stop Dr. Misner from leaving Pocatello Dental?
- A. No.
- Q. Why not?
- A. For the same reasons I gave you about Dr. Snow. * * *
- A. I was disappointed that he was going to leave.

SUPPLEMENT OF THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS ROMRIELL, ORMOND & GOODLIFFE TO HEARING ON MISNER TRO MOTION — Page 6

- Q. And the damage to the practice, is that in the form of patients going with him?
- A. Yes, and the attractiveness of the Pocatello Dental Group itself. We became the Pocatello Dental Group, the uniqueness of our office was we had a pediatric dentist, the only one in town. Now we have two and we don't have one in our office.
- Q. And just to summarize, the reasons why you didn't take steps to keep him from leaving were that you thought that *InterDent had done some things that were wrong* and would prevent you from doing anything to stop Dr. Misner from leaving?
- A. Yes.
- G. Romriell Depo. 52:19-53:20

* * *

Though Warned, InterDent Failed to Provide Trained Pediatric Staff

- Q. This is how we got it from Dr. Misner. There is a paragraph in the middle of the page beginning "The subject of *staff training*," do you see that?
- A. Yes.
- Q. There is a statement in about the middle, "Inadequate trained staff has come to a crisis state and will cost the company and doctors tens of thousands of dollars due to lack of action in providing trained personnel."
- A. Yes.
- Q. Was that true on or about August 14 of 2003?
- A. Yes, I remember that conversation. That was an ongoing conversation for several months.
- Q. What do you remember about that conversation?
- A. I remember my befuddlement why InterDent would not provide the training and the staff that Dr. Misner needed to produce the dentistry that he was doing.
- G. Romriell Depo. 66:3-20 (Referencing Exhibit 7, page 2)

* * *

Training of Replacement Pediatric Staff Refused by InterDent

Q. So you were never told there was any difficulty in finding trained personnel?

SUPPLEMENT OF THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS ROMRIELL, ORMOND & GOODLIFFE TO HEARING ON MISNER TRO MOTION — Page 7

A. There is difficulty finding trained personnel. That was the issue. We knew there was a difficulty finding trained personnel, and they needed to bring in extra personnel and train them before the other people left the office. And he knew nine months ahead of time that a couple of the girls would be leaving. So there was plenty of lead time to get these people trained, but Kevin Webb would not allow him to bring people in to be trained. So when those people left, he had no trained people to --

- G. Romriell Depo. 67:18-68:5

* * *

- Q. My question is how do you know that Kevin Webb prevented the hiring of personnel to be trained?
- A. Barbara said that Kevin and Bruce Call would not allow them to bring in those people to be trained. And that's the same reason that Dr. Johnson left, the same scenario.
- Q. When did Barbara say this?
- A. Oh, she said it in probably January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, and September, every month up until those girls left.
- Q. Of 2003?
- A. Yes.
- G. Romriell Depo. 68:14-25

Untrained and Inadequate Pediatric Staff

- Q. So they decided to alter their schedules and reduce hours?
- A. So they could adequately take care of the patients, because they had untrained staff or not enough staff to take care of them. Dr. Misner was pretty upset about it because it was going to affect his income, but he didn't know what else to do.
- Q. So it wasn't that InterDent refused to schedule patients --
- A. Yes, it was. It was because InterDent refused to provide the staff and provide the trained staff so that they could adequately take care of scheduled patients. It's not just a matter of scheduling patients and running them through the office, you have to have trained people to take care of them, and they were not available because of the actions of InterDent.
- G. Romriell Depo. 69:13-70:3

Without Adequate Pediatric and Orthodontic Staff, Hours Had to Be Reduced

- Q. The Exhibit No. 7 goes on to say, "The Pedo Orth. departments will be altering the patient schedules, and decreasing the hours of Dr. Bybee due to lack of adequately filled staff positions."
- Q. Did that occur?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, the pedo department was who?
- A. Misner and Bybee.
- Q. And the ortho department was --
- A. Johnson.
- O. That's short for orthodontist.
- A. Yes.
- G. Romriell Depo. 69:1-8

* * *

No Remaining Capacity To Take Care of Dr. Misner's Pediatric Patients

- Q. Dr. Misner's leaving was going to damage your practice, you knew that, right?
- A. No, I didn't think it was going to damage my practice that much, but because I am fairly busy after Dwight had left, I absorbed, because of my name, I absorbed many of his patients, and I am about as busy as I could be. And I really didn't have the capacity, rather than hurting my practice, I just didn't have the capacity to take care of Dr. Misner's patients.
- Q. So the damage would be to the Pocatello Dental Group practice as a whole, not your own personal practice?
- A. No, it wouldn't hurt the Pocatello Dental Group, it would hurt InterDent. That's why I was surprised that they didn't do something positive to try to keep him there.
- G. Romriell Depo. 54:14-55:4

* * *

Drs. Misner & Bybee: The Only Local Dentists Seeing Medicaid-Medicare Children

- Q. Let's talk about family dentists for a moment. Now, it's true, is it not, that Dr. Misner and Dr. Bybee are not the only dentists in Pocatello who see children, right?
- A. True. But they are nearly the only dentists in Pocatello that see the Medicaid-Medicare patients. Most, I don't know

SUPPLEMENT OF THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS ROMRIELL, ORMOND & GOODLIFFE TO HEARING ON MISNER TRO MOTION — Page 9

of another general dentist that sees them, and the other pediatric dentist has refused to see them when we have referred them to his office.

--- G. Romrieli Depo. 23:13-21

* * *

Remaining Dentists Not Trained for Pediatric Dental Patients

A. No, they were all telephone conversations. I apologized for my inability to take care of them. I feel badly for them. I'm not trained for those special needs.

- G. Romriell Depo. 30:23-25

* * *

InterDent Directed that Pediatric Patients Be Referred Out

A. Yes. In fact when Dr. Misner had resigned from the Pocatello Dental Group, we were concerned about the emergency service to those patients. We did not have the capability of working them into our schedule on the basis that they had been coming in. We asked Dr. Misner and Bybee if they would come in on an emergency basis and see these patients. We made that request of InterDent and received a rather terse letter back, absolutely not, that they would be -all those patients should be referred out to the dentists in the community. When we referred those children into the community, who had dental emergencies, which means they were in pain, they could not get into another dentist for the most part. So Dr. Bybee made arrangements to go in after hours at his brother's office so that he could take care of those emergency patients and get them out of pain, because they were not able to find all their needs met among the list that you just read.

— G. Romriell Depo. 28:7-24

* * *

Dr. Bybee is Pediatric Specialty Trained

Q. And Dr. Bybee is a general dentist who sees children?

A. Yes. He has taken many hours of continuing ed classes and studying; he is as well trained as any pediatric specialist dentist. The only difference is he has not gone to a specialty school. The fact of the matter is he is better trained and

treats the patients better than the other specialist in Pocatello. — G. Romriell Depo. 31:5-12

* * *

InterDent Removed Patient Follow-up Capability

A. If the patient walks in the office, I have access to their chart, and that's all I have. If that patient -- I take care of their emergency. In the past we have a follow-up system to follow up with that patient and bring them in as a regular patient, get them into hygiene, diagnose their needs, and take care of them so they didn't have to become an emergency patient again. With InterDent I don't have that capability. We did have it with GMS, but when InterDent moved the computers to Vancouver, we lost that capability.

— G. Romriell Depo. 46:12-21

A. I want to be able to follow-up with them so that I can take the appropriate care, and I am being denied that capability. If I ask for a list of my emergency patients that I had last month, they will not give them to me. There is no way that I can go into the computer, which it was made for, and get that information.

- G. Romriell Depo. 47:23-48:4

* * *

InterDent Not Rescheduling Current Patients

A. It's called a 2028. We weren't supposed to find out about that list because InterDent had created this file behind our backs. We were wondering why certain patients weren't coming in, patients who were in the midst of orthodontic treatment, in the midst of root canal treatment, in the midst of crown and bridge treatment, every aspect of treatments. And we found that their appointments were being canceled, they weren't showing up for treatment, they weren't finalizing treatment, and I don't remember how we came to find out about the 2028. The 2028 means that that patient is put on a list that we do not call for 28 years, and they are not allowed to come in the office for 28 years. That included many of my family and some of my best friends.

- G. Romriell Depo. 43:11-25

- Q. Let me finish the sentence first. Any other reasons why you feel that InterDent is responsible for these patients leaving?
- A. I know of and have been given no other reason. I have had *patients* that I have seen at wedding receptions and family gatherings that have come to me and put their arm around me and say, Dr. Romriell, we love you, you are the finest dentist we have ever had, but we cannot tolerate the way we have been treated by InterDent.
- G. Romriell Depo. 41:15-24

Refusal To Provide Basic Patient Information

- Q. About how many patients did you have last fall?

 A. I tried to find that out and *InterDent wouldn't tell me*. I made a request that of the patients that I had, et cetera, and they said they would not give me that information. I requested that information as recently as two days ago, and InterDent, Kevin Webb, *refused to give me that information*.

 G. Romriell Depo. 45:6-13
- InterDent Has Refused Accounting Information

 I have asked for an accounting of new patients, calls and referrals and so forth, and they will not share that information with me

- G. Romriell Depo. 29:24-30:1

InterDent Refusal to Shared Needed and Readily-Available Information

* * *

A. It would just be a guess; I would guess it would be 3,000, 3,500. But that's one of the problems, that *InterDent refuses* to share information with us about our practices that we really need to know. I have asked for patient lists; they won't give me patient lists. I have asked for patient numbers, relationship of when a patient comes in for an emergency, how many we get back to take care of their problems on a more permanent basis. I have no idea.

- G. Romriell Depo. 45:16-24

* * 4

A. Yes, but who remembers the name of the patient. And with 10,000 charts to go through, that's an absurd way to find the answer to the problem, when it's in the computer and literally within seconds they could give me that information.

— G. Romriell Depo. 46:2-6

CONCLUSION

InterDent seeks to profit from its own wrongs, failures, and mistakes. Whether from its own financial mismanagement and bankruptcy or otherwise, the evidence is overwhelming that InterDent consciously elected to *downgrade* the former "preeminent" Pocatello Dental Group practice. It was formerly a multi-specialty elite practice without equal in this community.

But InterDent was looking for a "free ride." It chose to *not* maintain equipment and forego necessary supplies purchases. It chose to *not* train and replace necessary staff — pediatric and otherwise. It broke promises to new dentists about providing top-notch professional support. It secreted access by the dentists to patient and practice information that historically had always been available to the Pocatello Dental Group professionals. It undertook practices that impaired patient follow-up and ongoing care. The consequences were predictable. The Motion for Temporary Restraining Order should be denied.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 8th day of July, 2004.

LOWELL N. HAWKES, CHARTERED

LOWELL N. HAWKES

SUPPLEMENT OF THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS ROMRIELL, ORMOND & GOODLIFFE TO HEARING ON MISNER TRO MOTION — Page 13

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF IDAHO

POCATELLO DENTAL GROUP, P.C., an Idaho professional corporation,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. CV-03-450-E-LMB

INTERDENT SERVICE CORPORATION,)
a Washington corporation,

Defendant.

INTERDENT SERVICE CORPORATION, a Washington corporation,

Third Party Plaintiff.

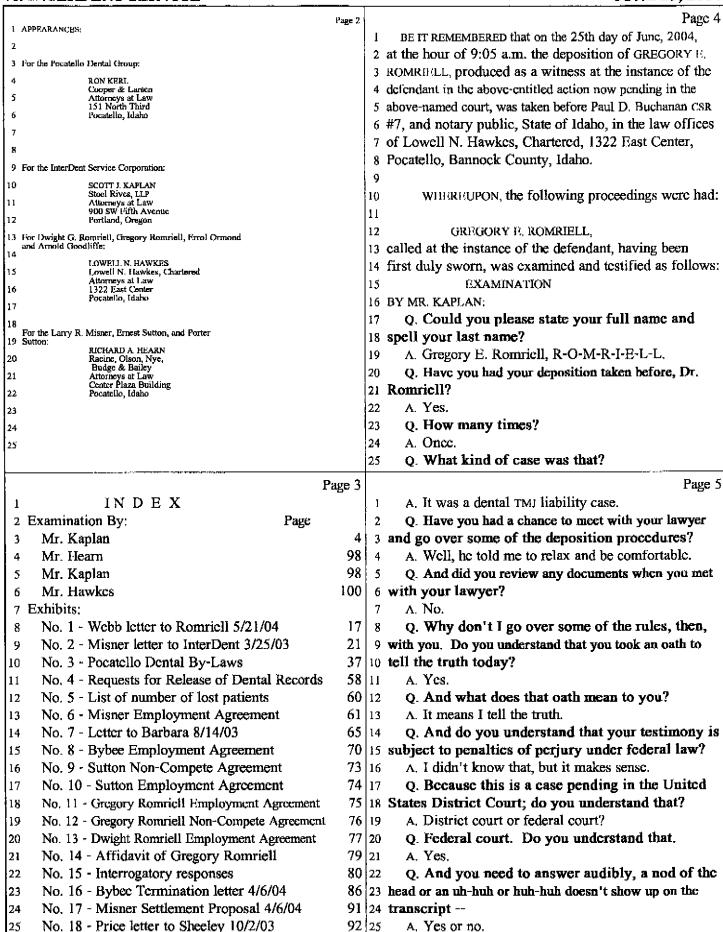
٧s.

POCATELLO DENTAL GROUP, P.C,)
an Idaho professional)
corporation; DWIGHT G.)
ROMRIELL, individually;)
LARRY R. MISNER, JR.,)
individually; PORTER SUTTON,)
individually; ERNEST SUTTON,)
individually; GREGORY ROMRIELL)
individually; ERROL ORMOND,)
individually; and ARNOLD)
GOODLIFFE, individually,)

Third Party Defendants.

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ORAL DEPOSITION OF GREGORY E. ROMRIELL Taken on June 25, 2004



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POCATELLO DENTAL GR **vs. INTERDENT SERVICE**

Q. How long did you work as a solo practitioner

A. I was alone for two years and then my brother 3 4 joined us.

Q. That's Dr. Dwight Romriell?

A. Yes, he joined us in '76.

Q. And did you practice with Dr. Dwight Romricll,

8 just the two of you for a period of time?

A. Yes, we were together for about eight years, 10 ninc years.

O. Until what year?

A. You are asking hard questions now. That would 12

13 have been about '84.

O. Then what did you do? 14

A. It was '83. Then we formed the Pocatello 15

16 Dental Group.

Q. Was it known as the Pocatello Dental Group at 17 17

18 that time?

6

11

A. Yes. 19

O. Was that a professional corporation? 20

 A. We have been a professional corporation, a 21

22 limited liability company, and a partnership, and I don't 22

23 remember what we were at that point.

Q. Who were the owners or partners in that entity 24 nominated by someone or how does that work? 24

25 at the time?

Page 11

A. There was myself and my brother, Porter

2 Sutton, Ernic Sutton, Errol Ormond, Jay Goodliffe, Dick

3 Oyler, Dennis Michaelson, and I think that's all.

Q. Did at some point --

A. Oh. Doug Akers. 5

O. Did at some point your business become known

7 as Idaho Dental Group?

A. The Suttons and Michaelson had formed a

9 corporation that was known as the Idaho Dental Group, and

10 Porter Sutton had a vision of creating multiple offices

11 like ours under the umbrella of the Idaho Dental Group.

12 But we were never known locally as that.

O. So the Pocatello Dental Group was either a 13

14 business name of or subsidiary of Idaho Dental Group?

15

O. Do you know which one, whether it was a doing 16

17 business or whether it was a subsidiary?

O. Did at some point other dentists become owners 19

20 of the PC?

21 A. No.

O. How long did this business arrangement of 22

23 Pocatello Dental Group or Idaho Dental Group last? 23

A. It still exists. 24

O. Did you engage in a significant business 25

1 transaction in 1996?

A. Yes.

Q. Between 1983 and 1996 were there other 3

4 business transactions of that magnitude with regard to

5 your --

6 A, No.

Q. And the 1996 transaction, was that the 7

acquisition of certain of your assets by GMS Dental?

9 A. Yes.

Q. And I take it you are a licensed dentist? 10

11

Q. When did you get your license? 12

A. In 1974. 13

Q. And what states are you licensed in?

A. At that time Idaho and Kentucky; now just 15

16 Idaho.

14

Q. Are you a certified specialist of any sort?

A. No. I am a member of the Academy of General

19 Dentistry with my fellow and soon to have mastership

20 award which in the field of general dentistry is the

21 equivalent of a specialty but not recognized as such.

Q. What does it take to get into the Academy of

23 General Dentistry, for example, do you have to be

A. No, it just takes a desire to be a high

Page 13

1 quality dentist, gaining knowledge, remaining on the

2 forefront of the advances of dentistry, bettering

3 yourself. They have a high standard of continuing

4 education classes each year and you have to take them in

5 certain areas so that you remain knowledgeable in all

6 aspects of dentistry. They are divided into lecture and

7 hands-on practical courses.

Q. Some questions I need to ask you, Dr.

9 Romriell. Have you ever been convicted of a felony?

Q. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor 11

12 involving dishonesty?

A. No, never been charged.

Q. Is there any reason, health or otherwise, why

15 you can't give your full and best testimony here today?

A. No. 16

O. I want to talk for a minute about specialty

18 areas of dentistry. Let's take an orthodontist, for

19 example, is that a recognized specialty?

A. Yes. 20

24

O. And does an orthodontist have to get any sort 21

22 of certification to be an orthodontist?

A. Just has to graduate from a certified school.

O. And does someone, the state or some regulatory

25 agency give them some kind of stamp of approval -

5

11

17

25

Page 20

Page 18

A. No.

1

Q. And, to your knowledge, does Mr. Webb have any 2 3 ability to force you to do that?

MR. KERL: I object to the form of the

5 question to the extent it asks for a legal conclusion.

A. Do what?

Q. Let's just strike the question, we'll start 7

8 over.

To your knowledge, does Mr. Webb and InterDent 9 10 have the ability to go out themselves and enforce Dr.

11 Snow's noncompete agreement?

12 MR. HAWKES: Objection.

MR. KERL: Same objection. 13

14 O. Do you know?

15 A. I don't.

O. Do you know whether InterDent is relying on 16

17 you, Pocatello Dental Group, to enforce --

18 MR. KERL: I object to the form of the

19 question. The deposition is not being taken of Mr.

20 Romriell in his capacity as an agent for Pocatello Dental

21 Group. You specifically noticed him up as an individual.

22 You specifically noticed and wrote a letter to me stating 22

23 that he was not being taken as an agent for Pocatello

24 Dental Group. So I am objecting to the form of the

25 question and asking him not to answer.

Page 19

MR. KAPLAN: I am asking his personal

2 knowledge as an individual, I am not asking him to speak

3 as the corporate representative most knowledgeable. If

4 he has knowledge on the subject, he needs to answer.

MR. HAWKES: Scott, let me say this. I

6 thought the way you phrased the question was

7 objectionable because you were asking him to speculate as

8 to the state of mind or authority of power of your

9 clients, and I think it's objectionable for that reason.

10 Why don't you restate it and see if we can get around it.

MR. KAPLAN: That's fair. 11

Q. (By Mr. Kaplan.) Dr. Romriell, do you know

13 whether InterDent is relying on you as the president of

14 Pocatello Dental to do anything to enforce Dr. Snow's

15 noncompete?

MR. HAWKES: Same objection. Calls for the 16

17 state of mind of InterDent.

O. You can answer.

A. I don't have any idea. I have been trying to 19

20 figure out for two years what their state of mind is.

I am not asking for InterDent's state of mind,

22 I am asking your state of mind, and was the answer you

23 don't know?

A. My state of mind is I don't know what they are 24

25 doing or what they expect.

Q. Now, this letter, the second sentence, states,

2 "Pocatello Dental Group (PDG) has an obligation to

3 enforce dentist noncompete agreements to prevent damage 4 to the practice."

Do you understand that sentence?

A. Uh-huh. (Witness nods head affirmatively.) 6

7 O. Yes?

A. I understand that sentence.

Q. There is no lack of clarity about what

10 InterDent expects in that sentence, is there?

A. Yes, there is.

Q. How so? 12

 A. Because of the actions that InterDent has 13

14 taken that have been so detrimental to our practice.

Q. Does the actions that you think InterDent has 15

16 taken cause you to have some uncertainty about --

A. Absolutely.

O. Let me finish, please. -- about the sentence

19 "Pocatello Dental Group (PDG) has an obligation to

20 enforce dentist noncompete agreements to prevent damage

21 to the practice"?

A. Yes.

Q. What word in that sentence don't you 23

24 understand?

A. The statement of obligation, I think that we

Page 21

1 had as a dental group an obligation through InterDent to

2 provide Dr. Snow with the things that we had agreed upon

3 when he came into the group, and through the actions of

4 InterDent, the negative actions of InterDent, we were not

5 able to provide meeting his contract. So the contract

6 had been violated and he is free to do his choice.

Q. So it's not that you don't understand the word

8 obligation, you just disagree with it; is that fair?

A. Yes.

Q. And I may have asked this already, but you or

11 to your knowledge anyone at Pocatello Dental Group have

12 taken no action in response to this letter?

A. No.

13

Q. You have taken no action?

A. I have taken no action. Well, excuse me, I

16 have taken an action, I told Barbara, our office

17 manager-CPA-bookkeeper, that the second paragraph,

18 InterDent says that they will take the action if we

19 choose not to, and I told her that they needed to do what

20 they were going to do.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 2 marked for

22 identification.)

Q. Now, Dr. Romriell, your predecessor as

24 president of Pocatello Dental Group was Dr. Misner,

25 correct?

vs. I	NTERDENT SERVICE		JOINE 25, 2001
	Page 26		Page 28
1 f	amily dentistry?	l	are you familiar with that office?
2	A. Yes.	2	A. Yes.
3	Q. Do they take Medicare-Medicaid?	3	Q. And do they take Medicare-Medicaid?
4	A. Bill doesn't. I don't know about Lee.	4	A. They may.
5	Q. Are you familiar with Gene Hoge?	5	Q. Are all the dentists that we just named in the
6	A, Yes.	6	Pocatello area?
7	Q. Is he a family dentist?	7	A. Yes. In fact when Dr. Misner had resigned
8	A. Yes.		from the Pocatello Dental Group, we were concerned about
9	Q. Does he take Medicare-Medicaid?	9	the emergency service to those patients. We did not have
10	A. No.		the capability of working them into our schedule on the
11	Q. Are you familiar with Larry Kemp?		basis that they had been coming in. We asked Dr. Misner
12	A. Yes.	12	and Bybee if they would come in on an emergency basis and
13	Q. Is he a family dentist?	13	see these patients. We made that request of InterDent
14	A. Yes.	14	and received a rather terse letter back, absolutely not,
15	Q. Does he take Medicare-Medicaid?	15	that they would be all those patients should be
16	A. I don't know.	16	referred out to the dentists in the community.
17	Q. Are you familiar with Kim Smith?	17	
	A. Yes.	18	community, who had dental emergencies, which means they
18	O. Is that a he or she?	19	were in pain, they could not get into another dentist for
19	A. He.	20	the most part. So Dr. Bybec made arrangements to go in
20	Q. Is he a family dentist?	21	after hours at his brother's office so that he could take
21	A. Yes.	22	care of those emergency patients and get them out of
22	Q. Does he take Medicare-Medicaid?	23	pain, because they were not able to find all their needs
23	A. I don't know.		met among the list that you just read.
24	Q. Are you familiar with Larry Kemp?	25	
25			Page 29
1	Page 27		just said.
1	A. You asked that.		Did your request that Drs. Misner and Bybee
2	Q. I am sorry.		see emergency patients at Pocatello Dental, was that made
3	MR. HAWKES: Well, are you still familiar.		in writing?
4	Q. Are you still familiar?	- 1	are the second of the second o
5	A. Yes.		
6	Q. Does he still practice family dentist?	- 1	A sussessing
7	A. My answer is that Larry will take anybody he		and the second s
8	can get in the door.		Q. You got a letter from Dr. Aaron back. Did you go communicate to InterDent in a letter as well?
9	Q. Are you familiar with an office called	Ι.	the state of the second three told the
10	Pocatello Family Dentistry?	10	
11	A. No.		1 no? 2 Q. No, requesting that Drs. Misner and Bybee see
12	Q. Is there an office staffed by residents in the	12	
13	ISU advanced general dentistry program here?	- 1	3 emergencies patients.
14	 A. It's a residency program for recent graduates. 	1	
15	Q. And do they see children?		Q. Do you recall when this occurred?
16	A. On rare occasion.		6 A. March February.
17	Q. Do they take Medicarc-Medicaid?	1	
18	A. I have no idea.		8 been unable to get in to see another dentist, do you have
19	Q. Are you familiar with Larsen Dental Center?	- 1	9 an estimate?
20	A. Yes.		A. It could be 22 million, I have no idea. That's an absurd number but I have no idea. We have
21	Q. And are they family dentists?		
22	A. I'm not sure.	2	2 multiple receptionists taking the calls and that's some
23		2	of the information that InterDent refuses to give to me. I have asked for an accounting of new patients, calls and
104	A I have no idea	- 12	4 I have asked for an accounting of new patients, cans and

Q. And our last one is Williams Family Dentistry,

24

A. I have no idea.

24 I have asked for an accounting of new patients, calls and

25 referrals and so forth, and they will not share that



Page 36 Page 34 shareholder at one point? O. He is still there. 1 A. Yes. A. Yes. 2 Q. Is he no longer a shareholder? Q. And for two years after he left Pocatello 3 4 Dental, did he practice at all in Pocatello? A. Right. 4 Q. What happened to his shares? A. I have no idea. I only referred one 5 A. They were given to members of the crew. 6 orthodontist in the group, and at that time it was Dr. 6 Q. Same arrangement? 7 7 Johnson. A. Same arrangement. Dr. Porter Sutton was the Q. Prior to the GMS Dental acquisition, you did 9 founder of the Pocatello Dental Group. 9 in fact have noncompete agreements in your employment Q. And he was the president of the group for a 10 contracts, correct? 10 11 long period of time? A. I think we did. 11 A. Many years. O. And in fact those noncompete agreements had a 12 12 Q. He was the president of the group at the time 13 20-mile and two-year limitation, right? 13 14 of the GMS Dental acquisition? A. Yes, they may have. 15 A. Yes. Q. That's your best recollection? 15 Q. And did he serve as president for a number of A. Yes. It's been 20 years since we wrote that. 16 16 Q. So your best recollection is that the 20-mile 17 years after that? 17 18 and two-year limitation is not something that GMS Dental A. Yes. Q. When did he stop serving as president? 19 came up with, it's something that you had already been 19 A. I couldn't tell you. 20 20 using, correct? O. Did Dr. Misner take over after him? 21 A. Well, yeah, maybe. 21 A. I don't remember who the next president was. Q. Your best recollection? 22 22 Q. Dr. Misner was the president prior to you? 23 A Best recollection. 23 Q. Who are the current shareholders in Pocatello A. Yes. 24 24 Q. And do you recall how long he had been 25 Dental Group? Page 37 Page 35 president? A. Myself, Dwight Romriell, Jay Goodliffe, Errol A. No, just not long enough. 2 Ormond. Q. Now, how is it that you came to be president Q. Dr. Misner was a --3 4 in place of Dr. Misner? A. Let's see, and Russ Misner, five of us. A. He was about ready to have a nervous O. Dr. Misner is still a shareholder? 5 6 breakdown, his blood pressure was out of control, and the A. Yes. 6 7 doctor told him he needed to get out of the position. Q. Has Dr. Bybee ever been a shareholder? 7 8 Our employer was creating -- not our employer, but 8 9 InterDent was creating a lot of stresses in his life. Q. 1s Dr. Earnest Sutton a shareholder? 9 Q. So in order to reduce Dr. Misner's stress, you A. No. 10 11 took over; is that right? 11 Q. Is he an employee of yours? 12 A. Yes. 12 A. Yes. O. And --Q. Has he ever been a shareholder? 13 13 A. With friendly coercion. 14 A. Yes. 14 Q. When did that happen? Q. What happened to his shares? 15 15 A. I'm not even sure of the date. A. He resigned from the PC. 16 16 O. Was it in 2003 or 2004? Q. And did he sell his shares to anybody or what 17 A. It was at the end of 2003 or the beginning of 18 happened? 19 2004. I'd have to go back and look at the records. A. He just gave them back to the rest of us. 19 MR, KAPLAN: Let's have this marked. Q. And do you as individuals own his shares or 20 20 (Deposition Exhibit No. 3 marked for 21 does the company own them? 21 22 identification.) A. Individuals. 22 O. Do you recognize Exhibit No. 3, Dr. Romriell? Q. How are they divided up? 23 23 A. I think I have seen this before. 24 A. Evenly. 24 Q. Are these the bylaws of the Pocatello Dental O. And Dr. David Porter Sutton, was he a

5

14

16

22

25

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- 1 A. I can give you a very specific example.
- Q. Sure.
- 3 A. My own son. It's traditional in dentistry and
- 4 has been since the inception of the Pocatello Dental
- 5 Group, including GMS and InterDent, that we do our family
- 6 dentistry for free, our families in dentistry. I had
- 7 treated my son and his wife. She worked for Albertson's
- 8 as a meat cutter, had insurance. We submitted their
- 9 claims for their insurance, which they were entitled to,
- 10 and then I gave instructions to write off the balance,
- 11 what InterDent terms as charity dentistry.
- They wouldn't write it off. He was called by a lady from InterDent in Vancouver, who identified
- 14 herself as calling for Dr. Greg Romriell at the Pocatello
- 15 Dental Group. I have no idea who the lady was. And she
- 16 wanted to know when Matt was going to pay his bill. So
- 17 hc explained to her what our arrangement was, that he was
- 18 my son. She says, That's fine. When are you going to
- 19 send a check? He explained that three times, and she
- 20 came back with the same response. And Matthew said, Dad,
- 21 if you weren't my father, I would be in another dental
- 22 office, that lady treated me so rudely.
- Q. Now, other than your son, can you give me an
 estimate of how many patients were upset that InterDent
- 25 wanted them to pay their bills?

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- A. I have a list of 287 that InterDent prohibited
- 2 from coming into the office. And it was not because they
- 3 weren't paying their bills, most of them were paying.
- 4 The problem was that they weren't paying enough fast
- 5 enough. If they were paying \$50 a month, they wanted
- 6 them to pay 100.

7

- Q. How did you put that list together?
- 8 A. InterDent did that for us.
- 9 Q. Is that list called an InterDent Form
- 10 something or what's it called?
- 11 A. It's called a 2028. We weren't supposed to
- 12 find out about that list because InterDent had created
- 13 this file behind our backs. We were wondering why
- 14 certain patients weren't coming in, patients who were in
- 15 the midst of orthodontic treatment, in the midst of root
- 16 canal treatment, in the midst of crown and bridge
- 17 treatment, every aspect of treatments.
- And we found that their appointments were
- 19 being canceled, they weren't showing up for treatment,
- 20 they weren't finalizing treatment, and I don't remember
- 21 how we came to find out about the 2028. The 2028 mcans
- 22 that that patient is put on a list that we do not call
- 23 for 28 years, and they are not allowed to come in the
- 24 office for 28 years. That included many of my family and
- 25 some of my best friends.

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Q. What makes you think that there is this

- 2 28-year rule?
 - A. Because that's what they stated it meant.
- O. Who did?
- A. That's what 2028 means.
- O. Who stated that?
- 7 A. This is where you put deadbeat patients.
 - Q. Who stated that?
- A. InterDent.
- 10 O. Do you recall who?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. We are straying a little from the subject of
- 13 this deposition --
 - A. No, actually that's what it's all about, is
- 15 the poor treatment of our patients.
 - Q. What we are here about today, and I am going
- 17 to try to limit it to this, is Dr. Misner's noncompete --
- 8 A. You asked me earlier about that, and that's
- 19 the reason that I can't enforce a noncompete, because
- 20 they were devastating our practice.
- 21 Q. This -- is it 278?
 - A. 287.
- 23 Q. Out of about how many patients did you have
- 24 when you compiled this list?
 - MR, KERL: I object to the form of the

Page 45

- 1 question. He did not compile the list. I think his
- 2 testimony is different.
- 3 Q. When you obtained this 287 figure, when was
- 4 that?
- 5 A. It was sometime last fall.
- 6 Q. About how many patients did you have last
- 7 fall?
- 8 A. I tried to find that out and InterDent
- 9 wouldn't tell me. I made a request that of the patients
- 10 that I had, et cetera, and they said they would not give
- 11 me that information. I requested that information as
- 12 recently as two days ago, and InterDent, Kevin Webb,
- 12 recently as two days ago, and interpent, sevin webt
- 13 refused to give me that information.
- 14 Q. Do you have an estimate, are we talking 15 10,000, 5,000?
- 16 A. It would just be a guess; I would guess it
- 17 would be 3,000, 3,500. But that's one of the problems,
- 18 that InterDent refuses to share information with us about
- 19 our practices that we really need to know. I have asked
- 20 for patient lists; they won't give me patient lists. I
- 21 have asked for patient numbers, relationship of when a
- 22 patient comes in for an emergency, how many we get back
- 23 to take care of their problems on a more permanent basis.
- 24 I have no idea.
- 25 Q. You do have access to patient charts and other

GREGORY E. ROMRIELL JUNE 25, 2004

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Page 50 A. No. 1 2 Q. Is there a secretary? 3 A. Yes.

Q. Who is that?

5 A. Dr. Ormond.

O. Is there a treasurer? 6

A. He is the secretary-treasurer. 7

MR. KAPLAN: Let's take a short break. 8

9 (Short recess.)

Q. Dr. Romriell, you have been practicing in 10

11 Pocatello for approximately 30 years now; is that right?

A. Yes, 29. 12

13 Q. And are you familiar with the community of

14 dental practitioners here?

15 A. Yes.

Q. Are you involved in any local dentistry 16

17 organizations?

18 A. Yes.

Q. What are those? 19

A. The free neighborhood clinic, indigent, take

21 care of patients here in Pocatello.

O. Is there something like a Pocatello dental

23 association --

A. Oh, societies, yes, there is a Southeast Idaho 24

25 Dental Society. I was the founder of that organization.

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1 I was several times the president of the Pocatello Dental

2 Society. I was the president of the Upper Snake River

3 Dental Society.

Q. In the break did you have a chance to review

5 my copy of the Yellow Pages --

A. There is not all the pages there. I didn't

7 see it.

Q. It didn't help you recollect the name of the

9 new guy?

A. No. 10

O. When did Dr. Misner leave Pocatello Dental 11

12 Group?

A. I don't remember if it was March or April; 13

14 this spring.

Q. Before he left did he provide some sort of 15

16 written notice?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Who did he provide that notice to?

19

O. Was it in a letter? 20

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Do you still have a copy of it?

A. I gave the letter to Barbara. I think I have 23

24 a copy of it.

Q. Now, does Pocatello Dental Group itself have

1 files somewhere?

A. Lots of files.

O. Where are those files located? 3

A. I really don't know. There are some at the

5 Pocatello Dental Group; there is storage somewhere in

6 town that they have files.

Q. Was it Dr. Porter Sutton who took

8 responsibility at some point for putting things in

9 storage, or who did?

A. No. Barbara. 10

Q. Where are the Pocatello Dental Group corporate

12 records kept?

13 A. I guess they are in the file that Russ gave

14 mc.

11

Q. So Dr. Misner gave you a file when you took 15

16 over?

A. Yes. I would expect that's where they would 17

18 bc.

19 Q. Did you do anything to try to stop Dr. Misner

20 from leaving Pocatello Dental?

21 ۸. No.

O. Why not? 22

23 A. For the same reasons I gave you about Dr.

24 Snow.

Q. Did you have a concern that Dr. Misner leaving 25

Page 53

1 was going to hurt your practice?

A. Yes.

Q. And did you attempt to quantify the damage to

4 the practice that his leaving was going to do?

A. No.

Q. And your concern about --6

A. I was disappointed that he was going to leave.

Q. And the damage to the practice, is that in the

9 form of patients going with him?

A. Yes, and the attractiveness of the Pocatello

11 Dental Group itself. We became the Pocatello Dental

12 Group, the uniqueness of our office was we had a

13 pediatric dentist, the only one in town. Now we have two

14 and we don't have one in our office.

Q. And just to summarize, the reasons why you 15

16 didn't take steps to keep him from leaving were that you

17 thought that InterDent had done some things that were

18 wrong and would prevent you from doing anything to stop

19 Dr. Misner from leaving?

20

Q. Now, did you seek legal advice on that subject 21

22 or is that something that you came up with on your own?

A. I talked with Ron Kerl, the PC's attorney. 23

24 Q. And so because of that, despite the damage to

25 your practice, you took no steps to enforce Dr. Misner's

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Page 66

A. Is this missing a page or is it just not

2 signed? Who wrote the letter?

O. This is how we got it from Dr. Misner.

There is a paragraph in the middle of the page 5 beginning "The subject of staff training," do you see 6 that?

A. Yes. 7

Q. There is a statement in about the middle, 8

9 "Inadequate trained staff has come to a crisis state and 10 will cost the company and doctors tens of thousands of 11 dollars due to lack of action in providing trained 12 personnel."

A. Yes. 13

Q. Was that true on or about August 14 of 2003? 14

A. Yes, I remember that conversation. That was 15 16 an ongoing conversation for several months.

Q. What do you remember about that conversation? 17

A. I remember my befuddlement why InterDent would 18 19 not provide the training and the staff that Dr. Misner 20 needed to produce the dentistry that he was doing.

Q. Did it ever come to your attention that Dr. 21

22 Misner had trouble with staff retention?

A. No. no.

23

Q. How about Dr. Bybec, has he had trouble with 24

25 staff retention?

Page 67

A. No. 1

O. Has it come to your attention that --2

A. It didn't come to my attention because it was 4 never an issue. They had staff that had been with them 5 for 20 years.

O. And did they have other staff that was with 7 them for much shorter periods of time?

A. Yes. They usually left because of better

wages at another dental office, or they were pregnant.

O. Did it ever come to your attention that the

11 office management was having difficulty in finding

12 trained personnel to fill the positions of those who had 13 left?

A. No. We were told that they could not have the 14 15 staff that they requested. When they requested them, 16 that they wouldn't hire the staff they wanted until the 17 people actually left the office.

O. So you were never told there was any 19 difficulty in finding trained personnel?

A. There is difficulty finding trained personnel. 20 21 That was the issue. We knew there was a difficulty

22 finding trained personnel, and they needed to bring in

23 extra personnel and train them before the other people

24 left the office.

And he knew nine months ahead of time that a

I couple of the girls would be leaving. So there was

2 plenty of lead time to get these people trained, but

3 Kevin Webb would not allow him to bring people in to be

4 trained. So when those people left, he had no trained 5 people to --

Q. Why is it that you believe that Kevin Webb 7 would not allow people to be brought in to be trained?

A. It was just the moncy-grubbing, blood-sucking

9 action that they continually do. For them that's what it 10 all drops down to. They would have had to bring another

11 staff member on and pay them salary and they didn't want

12 to pay a salary for two people. They wanted to pay one 13 salary.

Q. My question is how do you know that Kevin Webb 14 15 prevented the hiring of personnel to be trained?

 A. Barbara said that Kevin and Bruce Call would 17 not allow them to bring in those people to be trained.

18 And that's the same reason that Dr. Johnson left, the

19 same scenario.

20

O When did Barbara say this?

A. Oh, she said it in probably January, February, 21

22 March, April, May, June, July, August, and September,

23 every month up until those girls left.

Q. Of 2003?

A. Yes. 25

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Q. The Exhibit No. 7 goes on to say, "The Pedo 2 and Orth. departments will be altering the patient

schedules, and decreasing the hours of Dr. Bybee due to

4 lack of adequately filled staff positions."

Did that occur?

A. Yes.

5

O. Now, the pedo department was who? 7

 A. Misner and Bybee. 8

Q. And the ortho department was --

A. Johnson. 10

O. That's short for orthodontist. 11

A. Yes. 12

Q. So they decided to alter their schedules and 13

14 reduce hours?

A. So they could adequately take care of the

16 patients, because they had untrained staff or not enough 17 staff to take care of them. Dr. Misner was pretty upset

18 about it because it was going to affect his income, but

19 he didn't know what else to do.

Q. So it wasn't that InterDent refused to 21 schedule patients --

A. Yes, it was. It was because InterDent refused 23 to provide the staff and provide the trained staff so 24 that they could adequately take care of scheduled

25 patients. It's not just a matter of scheduling patients

7

11

17

22

Page 60

Page 58

1 Q. Does 716 Yellowstone sound right?

2 A. It's in that neighborhood, yes. I think it's

3 called Kidds Dental.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 4 marked for

5 identification.)

6

Q. Let me explain to you, Dr. Romriell, what

7 Exhibit No. 4 is. Exhibit No. 4 is a document in which

8 we have redacted names of patients because there is not a

9 protective order entered in this case. But they are

10 documents entitled Request for the release of dental

11 records. Have you seen these before?

12 A. Never have.

13 O. In the course of your work at Pocatcilo Dental

14 Group have you become aware that patients are requesting

15 records to be transferred to Dr. Misner or Dr. Bybec at

16 Kidds Dental?

17 A. Yes. Is Kidds spelled with two D's like that?

18 Q. It looks like Dr. Misner spells it that way.

19 Do you know how long that's been going on, that record

20 transfers have been going on to Dr. Misner and Bybee in

21 Pocatello?

22 MR. HAWKES: Objection. You haven't

23 established that he knows anything about these documents.

24 A. I have never seen these.

Q. Without reference to the documents, do you

Page 59

1 know how long ---

2 A. No.

25

3 O. Let me finish so we are clear for the record.

4 -- how long record transfers have been made to Drs.

5 Misner and Bybee at their office in Pocatello?

A. No.

7 Q. Does Dr. Misner also have an office in Burley?

A. Yes, the same office as Dr. Michaelson.

9 Q. And when Dr. Misner left Pocatello Dental, did

10 he initially go to practice at that office in Burley?

11 A. I think he was seeing patients before that.

12 Q. In Burley?

13 A. In Burley.

14 Q. While he was still employed by Pocatello

15 Dental?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Do you know how long that had been going on?

18 A. I don't.

19 Q. Do you have a sense of --

20 A. And I am not even certain about that; that's

21 just an impression that I have, because I never have

22 talked to him about the Burley situation.

23 Q. Do you know if Dr. Misner physically practices

24 at the Kidds dental office in Pocatello?

25 A. I have never seen him there.

Q. And are you aware that patient records have

2 also been transferred to Dr. Misner's practice in Burley?

A. No.

4 Q. Do you know, does Dr. Bybee also practice in

5 Burley or does he limit his practice to Pocatello?

A. I do not know.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 5 marked for

8 identification.)

Q. Have you seen what we have marked as Exhibit

10 No. 5 before?

A. I'm not sure.

12 Q. Do you have an understanding about what

13 patients on No Recall List means?

A. That's probably the 2028 list.

15 Q. Have you ever seen a calculation of lost

16 revenue from patients on No Recall List?

A. I don't remember seeing it.

18 Q. So is it fair to say this document, you have

19 no recollection of this document?

20 A. I don't remember this one specifically. Where

21 did it come from?

Q. I believe it came from something that

23 Pocatello Dental Group filed, but if you don't remember,

24 you don't remember.

A. I wonder where they come up with the 37

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1 percent down there at the bottom.

2 (Deposition Exhibit No. 6 marked for

3 identification.)

Q. Dr. Romriell, have you seen what we have

5 marked as Exhibit No. 6 before?

6 A. No.

7 Q. You are aware, though, that Dr. Misner had a

8 written employment agreement with Pocatello Dental Group?

9 A. Ycs.

10 Q. Do you know the term of that agreement?

11 A. I do not.

12 Q. Do you recall the term of your agreement?

13 A. I recall it was about ten years.

14 Q. Do you know if Dr. Misner had a different term

15 of agreement?

A. I don't.

16

19

17 Q. Now, your brother, Dr. Dwight Romriell, did

18 have a different term, correct?

A. Yes, he had seven years.

20 Q. Why was his term different?

21 A. He didn't have as much faith in GMS as what I

22 had. And that's supposition.

Q. Now, turn to Page 3 of Exhibit No. 6, under

24 Section 2.1, Hours. In the middle of the paragraph it

25 states, "In general, provider is expected to work for

Page 68

Page 66

A. Is this missing a page or is it just not

2 signed? Who wrote the letter?

Q. This is how we got it from Dr. Misner.

There is a paragraph in the middle of the page beginning "The subject of staff training," do you see that?

A. Yes.

7

8 Q. There is a statement in about the middle,

9 "Inadequate trained staff has come to a crisis state and 10 will cost the company and doctors tens of thousands of

10 will cost the company and doctors tens of incusands of 11 dollars due to lack of action in providing trained

12 personnel."
13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Was that true on or about August 14 of 2003?

15 A. Yes, I remember that conversation. That was 16 an ongoing conversation for several months.

17 Q. What do you remember about that conversation?

18 A. I remember my befuddlement why InterDent would 19 not provide the training and the staff that Dr. Misner 20 needed to produce the dentistry that he was doing.

21 Q. Did it ever come to your attention that Dr.

22 Misner had trouble with staff retention?

A. No, no.

23

Q. How about Dr. Bybee, has he had trouble with

25 staff retention?

Page 67

i A. No.

Q. Has it come to your attention that --

A. It didn't come to my attention because it was a never an issue. They had staff that had been with them for 20 years.

6 Q. And did they have other staff that was with 7 them for much shorter periods of time?

A. Yes. They usually left because of better

9 wages at another dental office, or they were pregnant.

Q. Did it ever come to your attention that the

office management was having difficulty in finding trained personnel to fill the positions of those who had

12 trained personnel to fill the positions of those who had 13 left?

14 A. No. We were told that they could not have the 15 staff that they requested. When they requested them, 16 that they wouldn't hire the staff they wanted until the 17 people actually left the office.

18 Q. So you were never told there was any 19 difficulty in finding trained personnel?

20 A. There is difficulty finding trained personnel.
21 That was the issue. We knew there was a difficulty

22 finding trained personnel, and they needed to bring in

23 extra personnel and train them before the other people 24 left the office.

And he knew nine months ahead of time that a

1 couple of the girls would be leaving. So there was

2 plenty of lead time to get these people trained, but

3 Kevin Webb would not allow him to bring people in to be

4 trained. So when those people left, he had no trained 5 people to --

6 Q. Why is it that you believe that Kevin Webb 7 would not allow people to be brought in to be trained?

8 A. It was just the money-grubbing, blood-sucking 9 action that they continually do. For them that's what it

10 all drops down to. They would have had to bring another

11 staff member on and pay them salary and they didn't want

12 to pay a salary for two people. They wanted to pay one 13 salary.

Q. My question is how do you know that Kevin Webb prevented the hiring of personnel to be trained?

16 A. Barbara said that Kevin and Bruce Call would 17 not allow them to bring in those people to be trained.

18 And that's the same reason that Dτ. Johnson left, the

19 same scenario.

20

Q. When did Barbara say this?

A. Oh, she said it in probably January, February,

22 March, April, May, June, July, August, and September,

23 every month up until those girls left.

24 Q. Of 2003?

A. Yes.

Page 69

Q. The Exhibit No. 7 goes on to say, "The Pedo

and Orth. departments will be altering the patient
 schedules, and decreasing the hours of Dr. Bybee due to

4 lack of adequately filled staff positions."

Did that occur?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Now, the pedo department was who?

8 A. Misner and Bybee.

9 Q. And the ortho department was --

10 A. Johnson.

11 O. That's short for orthodontist.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So they decided to alter their schedules and 14 reduce hours?

5 A. So they could adequately take care of the

16 patients, because they had untrained staff or not enough

17 staff to take care of them. Dr. Misner was pretty upset 18 about it because it was going to affect his income, but

19 he didn't know what else to do.

Q. So it wasn't that InterDent refused to
 schedule patients --

A. Yes, it was. It was because InterDent refused to provide the staff and provide the trained staff so that they could adequately take care of scheduled

25 patients. It's not just a matter of scheduling patients

11

16

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vs. INTERDENT SERVICE

Page 74 O. And it's a long paragraph, but could you just 2 confirm that about two thirds of the way down the 3 paragraph there is the twenty-mile noncompete area that

4 we have seen in some of the other agreements?

A. It does say that.

POCATELLO DENTAL GR

O. And if we look at Section 1 under Term, is the

7 term of that obligation three years from the effective 8 time or two years from the date of termination of the

9 member's employment with the group?

10

Q. On Page 5, do you recognize Dr. David Porter 11

12 Sutton's signature?

13 A. Yes.

Q. When Dr. David Porter Sutton left Pocatello

15 Dental Group, he in fact went to practice more than 20

16 miles outside of the radius of your current office?

A. Yes. 17

Q. So he complied with this agreement, correct? 18

19 A. Yes.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 10 marked for 20

21 identification.)

Q. Now, No. 10 is a Dentist's Employment 22

23 Agreement in a form similar to what we have seen before.

24

Q. And on Page 13 do you recognize Dr. David 25

Page 75

1 Porter Sutton's signature?

A. Yes.

O. There is an Article IX in the agreement

4 beginning on Page 7, Proprietary Information; Non

5 Solicitation; Non-competition. And it goes on to Page 8,

6 and if you look at the last paragraph on Page 8, could

7 you let me know if this has the two-year and twenty-mile

8 noncompete that we have seen in some of the other

9 documents?

10 A. Yes.

Q. And Dr. David Porter Sutton has complied with 11

12 that, correct?

A. Yes.

13

19

(Deposition Exhibit No. 11 marked for 14

15 identification.)

O. Dr. Romriell, do you recognize what we have 16

17 marked as Exhibit No. 11?

A. I have seen this one before.

O. And is this your Dentist's Employment

20 Agreement with Idaho Dental Group, PA?

2) A. Yes.

Q. And if we look at Page 8, does this have the 22

23 same two-year noncompete?

24 A. Ycs.

Q. Do you have any current intentions of leaving |25 Group; is that right? 25

Pocatello Dental Group?

A. I don't plan on being there forever.

Q. Do you have a specific date at which you

4 intend to leave?

A. No.

Q. Do you have any intention right now when you

7 do leave of complying with this provision?

MR. HAWKES: I object to the question as

9 asking the witness to speculate on what conditions may be

10 at some date in the future.

MR. KERL: Join in the objection.

MR. HAWKES: You don't have to answer that. 12

O. If you have an intention, you need to tell me, 13

14 because that's not a grounds to instruct a witness not to

15 answer if you don't have an intention.

A. I don't have an intention.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 12 marked for 17

18 identification.)

Q. Dr. Romriell, is Exhibit No. 12 a noncompete 19

20 agreement you signed with GMS Dental Group Management,

21 Inc.?

25

A. Yes, it is. 22

Q. And in Page 2, Section 2, does that have the 23

24 two-year and twenty-mile noncompete?

A. Yes, it's like the others.

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Q. Now let's take a look at a document that might

2 not be like the others in all respects.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 13 marked for

4 identification.)

Q. Have you seen what we have marked as Exhibit

6 No. 13 before?

A. Yes.

Q. And what is Exhibit No. 13?

A. It's a Dentist's Employment Agreement.

Q. Was this a document that was put together on

11 behalf of Pocatello Dental Group with your brother, Dr.

12 Dwight Romriell?

13 A. Yes.

Q. Now, let's compare this agreement, Exhibit

15 No. 13, with your Exhibit No. 11, please. If we start

16 off on the second page of both agreements, there is a

17 Section 1.1 entitled Employment, correct?

A. Yes.

O. And 1.2, entitled Outline of Provider's 19

20 Duties.

21 A. Yes.

Q. You don't need to go through all of them, but

23 if you look on Page 3 of Exhibit No. 13 and Page 2 of

24 Exhibit No. 11, there is a 1.3, Rights and Duties of

Page 84



Page 82 Q. When did the insufficient staff start?

A. In September. And it continued from that 2

3 point.

1

Q. On Page 6 near the top third, there is a

5 statement, "Since October 3, 2003, Drs. Dwight Romriell,

6 Greg Romriell, and L. R. Misner have requested patient

7 lists, patient flow records and/or production information

8 from ISC." A. Yes.

Q. Is that a true statement? 10

11 A. Yes.

12

13 is a statement, "Since October 3, 2003, Drs. Dwight

14 Romriell, Larry Bybee, and L. R. Misner have left the

15 practice". Is that true?

A. Yes. 16

Q. Now, as president of Pocatello Dental Group 17

18 would it not cause you some concern to give dentists such 18

19 as Drs. Dwight Romriell, Larry Bybce, and L. R. Misner

20 patient lists, patient records, who are leaving the

21 practice?

22 A. No.

Q. Why not? 23

A. Because each of them practice in an area that 24

25 I am not trained to practice in. They are doing me a

Page 83

1 favor by taking those patients.

Q. So it won't impact --2

A. I am not qualified in any way, shape, or form

4 to represent myself as being able to treat their

Q. So it won't impact your personal practice.

A. Nor is any other doctor in the Pocatello

8 Dental Group.

Q. So that these patient lists, you would assume,

10 would be of patients who were going to leave Pocatello

11 Dental Group with these doctors; is that right?

A. For their specialty care, yes. 12

Q. Now, let me ask you about Dr. Dwight Romriell,

14 you said that when he left, you took some of his

15 patients?

A, I took none of his patients. His patients

17 requested me.

Q. So were some of his patients general dentistry

19 patients, then?

A. Yes. 20

Q. Does he see general dentistry patients now? 21

A. No, none, zero. 22

Q. Do you know if Drs. Misner or Bybee copied any

24 patient charts or records before they left Pocatello

25 Dental Group?

A. I don't. Actually it was my advice to

2 InterDent and to Barbara Henderson that they take all the

3 pediatric charts and give them to them since they are the

4 doctors of record. And ultimately the patient leaves and

5 goes -- if they were to practice here, that they would

6 have been duplicating charts at unnecessary expense to

7 InterDent to have somebody copying x-rays, copying

8 charts. They are the doctor of record and really are the

9 caretakers of those charts, not the Pocatello Dental

10 Group.

11

Q. Let me ask you whether you know, is it Q. And about another third of the way down there 12 Pocatello Dental Group, in your understanding, who 13 actually owns those records?

MR, HAWKES: Calls for a legal conclusion. I

15 object to it. You don't have to answer that.

MR. KAPLAN: I am just asking for a 17 understanding.

MR. HAWKES: You can ask his opinion.

Q. Do you have an opinion or understanding?

A. Yes. My opinion is that InterDent -- not

21 InterDent, that Pocatello Dental Group does not own the

22 charts, but the patient owns the charts, and that the

23 doctor that is treating them is the caretaker of those

24 charts for them.

Q. So the individual doctor --

Page 85

A. I don't know if that's right or not, but

2 that's my understanding.

Q. In your opinion the individual doctor, then,

4 doesn't own the charts.

No, the patient does.

Q. Now, while we are on these interrogatories, on

7 Page 9, about the middle of the page, there is a

8 discussion about Dr. Misner having a claim in excess of

9 \$100,000.

A. Yes. 10

Q. What's the nature of that claim, what's that 11

12 about?

A. I'm not sure. It's just what he said. 13

Q. And it also says Dr. Bybee's claim is in the 14

15 approximate amount of \$100,000. Do you know why Dr.

16 Bybee is claiming \$100,000?

A. I am not sure where he came up with those 17

Q. Do you know what their complaints against

20 Pocatello Dental Group are?

A Yes.

O. What are they? 22

A. The inability to provide trained staff; the

24 inability to provide functioning equipment; the inability

25 to provide adequate supplies and materials; the inability

Page 92

Page 90

1 responsibility.

Q. So it's fair to say you don't want to put more 3 money into the company?

A. I don't want to put more money, I don't have 5 the money.

Q. You don't have the \$96,000 that Dr. Bybee is 7 demanding?

A. No. We have it in accounts receivable, which 9 InterDent says belongs to the doctors, but they have the

10 access to the checking account that those moneys come 11 into. We do not have any access to that.

 You are talking about the accounts receivables 13 that were assigned to InterDent and the GMS Dental

14 transaction?

A. No, they were not assigned. In the bankruptcy 15 16 court InterDent stated that they belonged to the

17 Pocatello Dental Group.

Q. I guess we will have to agree to disagree 18 19 about that for the time being.

A. That's the only way that they got away with 20 21 it.

Q. The fact is that you are not paying Dr. Bybee 22 23 \$96,000, right?

A. We are not paying him anything. 24

(Deposition Exhibit No. 17 marked for

Page 91

1 identification.)

Q. Have you seen Exhibit No. 17 before, Dr.

3 Romriell?

25

19

A. Yes.

Q. And is this a letter from Mr. Hearn, counsel

6 for Dr. Misner, to the lawyer for Pocatello Dental Group?

A. Yes, it is.

Q. On the second page of this letter there is a 9 discussion of a breach of contract claim for unpaid

10 bonsus in excess of \$100,000.

11 A. Where is this?

Q. The second page (indicating). Does this

13 letter refresh your recollection at all about where Dr.

14 Misner came up with this \$100,000?

A. That's probably where he came up with it. But 15 16 I still don't know where he came up with the \$100,000.

Q. Does Pocatello Dental Group intend to pay Dr. 17 18 Misner \$100,000?

A. Only with InterDent's cooperation.

O. If InterDent doesn't intend to pay Dr. Misner 20

21 100,000, does Pocatello Dental Group?

A. The Pocatello Dental Group has no income of 22 23 their own. The fiduciary for the Pocatello Dental Group 24 is InterDent. They control the purse, they control the

25 bank account, they control the patients' account

receivable.

MR. KAPLAN: I move to strike all of that

3 answer as nonresponsive.

Q. Yes or no, does Pocatello Dental Group intend 4

5 to pay Dr. Misner \$100,000?

A. No.

6

11

14

17

22

25

11

13

16

MR, HAWKES: I object to the question and 7

8 instruct the witness not to answer. You are asking about

9 a document which on its face is a settlement proposal

document and would not be admissible in evidence. 10

MR. KAPLAN: He already answered.

(Deposition Exhibit No. 18 marked for 12

13 identification.)

Q. Have you seen Exhibit No. 18 before, Dr.

15 Romriell?

A. Yes, I think we have, I have. 16

Q. And is this a letter from the lawyer for

18 Pocatello Dental Group to the Idaho State Board of

19 Dentistry?

A. Yes, it's signed by Jim Price. 20

Q. Were you president at the time? 21

A. No.

Q. Do you know, was Dr. Misner president? 23

24 A. Yes.

Q. Do you know if he authorized this letter going

Page 93

1 out?

A. I don't know that; I assume that he had.

3 There was discussion about it.

Q. Now, there is a statement in the second 5 paragraph, do you see this deals with Dr. Dwight

6 Romriell's resignation?

A. Yes.

O. The last sentence states, "InterDent was upset

9 about the resignation and threatened at the time to sue

10 Dr. Romriell if he left the practice."

Now, that wasn't true, was it?

12 A. I thought it was.

O. Well, InterDent in fact threatened to suc Dr.

14 Romriell if he came on the premises after he left; isn't

15 that what happened?

A. They did that, yes.

Q. Why do you think InterDent threatened to sue

18 Dr. Romriell if he left the practice?

MR. HAWKES: Objection, asking him to call for 19

20 a state of mind of somebody besides the witness. You 21 don't have to answer that.

MR. KAPLAN: He told me he thought it was 22

23 true. I want to know why he thought it was true.

MR, HAWKES: You asked him what the state of 24

25 mind of InterDent was. If you want to rephrase the



vs. INTERDENT SERVICE Page 100 Page 98 RIB-EXAMINATION 1 hadn't been convicted of anything. Have you been 2 prosecuted by the Internal Revenue Service? 2 BY MR. HAWKES: Q. Greg, to the extent you have talked about 4 profitability, it's my understanding you are simply Q. Do you have tax liens against any of your 5 relying upon what InterDent claims the fact is; is that 5 property? 6 truc? A. No. Is that relevant? A. Yes. We have no access to the records, to the 6 MR. KAPLAN: Thank you, I have no questions 8 total amount of dentistry that being done. The last 7 9 several months they have given me a statement that I 8 right now. MR. HAWKES: I don't have anything. 10 don't understand, I took it to Barbara Henderson, our MR. KERL: None. 11 bookkeeper-accountant-manager, and she tried to explain 10 EXAMINATION 12 the numbers. And she said I don't know where they come 11 13 up with these numbers. They don't make sense to me. 12 BY MR. HEARN: Q. If I understood you correctly, Dr. Romriell, MR, HAWKES: That's all I have. 14 did you say that the dental group was losing money each 14 MR. KAPLAN: Thank you. We will recess this 15 15 month? 16 deposition which was the purpose for the TRO -MR. HAWKES: Well, I saw no such limitation in A. Yes. 16 Q. How long has it been losing money each month, 17 18 the deposition notice. I made no agreement to that, 17 18 to the best of your knowledge? MR. KAPLAN: Under Judge Boyle's order I have 19 A. Three months. 20 another four hours or so with this witness. And he 19 MR. HEARN: That's all. 21 hasn't produced any documents, not a single one to date, 20 RE-EXAMINATION 22 so I am certainly not going to conclude this deposition, 21 22 BY MR. KAPLAN: 23 but we will recess for now. Q. Let me try to understand what you mean by the MR. HAWKES: Whatever the orders are, we will 23 24 dental group is losing money. Are the dentists in 25 honor those, but I certainly did not agree to any 25 Pocatello Dental Group still getting paid their 38 or Page 101 Page 99 1 limitation as stated. 1 whatever percentage? MR. KAPLAN: Nor did you object, Mr. Hawkes. MR. HAWKES: Well, where was the limitation A. Yes. Q. Now, what expenses does Pocatello Dental Group 3 4 stated? MR. KAPLAN: I stated it to you in writing 4 itself pay? A. We have an office that was built for twelve 6 doctors. We have five doctors. You do the calculations. days ago. MR. HAWKES: Not in the notice. Understood, I Q. What expenses does Pocatello Dental Group 8 don't want to argue with you. 8 itself as opposed to InterDent Services Corporation pay? (Witness excused at 11:40 a.m.) 9 A. None. 9 Q. So when you said losing money, you aren't 10 10 11 referring to Pocatello Dental Group itself, were you? 11 12 A. No. 12 13 Q. It's InterDent that's losing money. 13 14 A. Absolutely. 14 Q. For the past three months, so that would be --15 15 A. Actually their first loss month was in 16 17 17 September after Dr. Porton Sutton left. Q. Were they profitable for a period after that? 18 18 19 A. Marginally. 19 Q. And for the past three months, it's been since 20 21 Dr. Misner and Dr. Bybee left that they have been 21 22 22 unprofitable again, correct? 23 A. Yes. 23 24 MR. KAPLAN: Okay, thank you. 24 25

25

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this 8th day of July, 2004, I sent by fax a copy of the foregoing to counsel for the parties as shown below (excluding the complete deposition transcript which all counsel already have):

Ron Kerl Cooper & Larsen, Chartered P.O. Box 4229 Pocatello, ID 83205-4229 FAX 235-1182 Counsel for Plaintiff

Richard A. Hearn
Racine, Olson, Nye, Budge & Bailey
201 East Center
P.O. Box 1391
Pocatello, Idaho 83204-1391
FAX 232-6109
Counsel for Misner & Suttons

Erik F. Stidham
G. Rey Reinhardt
Scott J. Kaplan
Stoel Rives, LLP
101 South Capitol Blvd., Suite 1900
Boise, ID 83702
FAX 208-389-9040
FAX 503-220-2480 (Portland office)
Counsel for Defendant InterDent

Counsel for Third-Party Defendants Romriell, Ormond & Goodliffe

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Lawsti N. Howkes (ISB #1882) LOWRLL N. HAWKES, CHARTERD 1722 East Center Pocofello, Idaha 83201 Telephone: (208) 235-1600 FAX: (208) 235-200 Alterney for Third-Pury Defendants Rownell, Grasaml & Genwijk

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF IDAHO

The Honorable Larry M. Soyle

POCATELLO DENTAL GROUP, P.C., gn Idaho Professional Corporation,

Plaintiff,

¥3.

INTERDENT SERVICE CORPORATION, a Washington Corporation,

Defendant,

VB.

POCATELLO DENTAL GROUP, P.C., an Idaho Professional Corporation; DWIGHT G. ROMRDELL, individually; LARRY R. MISNER, JR., individually; PORTER SUTTON; individually; ERNEST SUTTON; individually; GREGORY ROMRIELL; individually; SIRKOL ORMOND; individually; and ARNOLD GOODLIFFE; individually;

Counterdefendant and Third-party Defendants $C_{\rm RSC}$ No. CV-03-450-E-I MB

SUPPLEMENTAL FILING
BY THIRD-PARTY
DEFENDANTS
DWIGHT G. ROMRIELL,
GREGORY ROMRIELL,
ERROL ORMOND, and
ARNOLD GOODLIFFE
TO JUNE 28TH MEARING
ON MISNER TRO MOTION

SUPPLEMENT OF THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS ROMRIELL, ORMOND & GOODLIFFE TO HEARING ON MISNER TRO MOTION — Page 1
Poppletic United Group v. InterDant v. Romriell, Misner, Switch, Switch, Switch, Company & Lincolliffs.